

United States House

Russell F. deForest, Green



DATE OF BIRTH: August 17th, 1973

PLACE OF BIRTH: Massachusetts

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LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 7 years
Fairbanks 1996 to present
Anchorage 1995-1996

OTHER:

I have traveled the width and breadth of the United States by foot and bicycle; been employed as a math tutor, log peeler, swim instructor, and laborer; volunteered with the Boy Scouts, the Bureau of Land Management, Kahiltna Birchworks, the Alaska Bird Observatory, the Alaska Boreal Forest Council and others; learned to build a house; vigorously pursued a better understanding of community based economics and renewable energies; and begun to discover what it means to be part of a community. I've also managed four years of college study in mathematics, a year of training as a massage therapist and have undertaken establishing the Alaska Coalition for Sustainable Development, helping to create a viable long-term future in the state of Alaska. Other adjectives which may apply include mathematician, juggler, and musician.

STATEMENT:

Imagine vibrant communities, a robust economy, and a healthy environment. Imagine innovative public policies which steer economic and community development in a healthy direction while supporting the ability for people and communities to provide for themselves. Imagine an empowered citizenry, with meaningful access to government. Imagine a more democratic society.

If we choose to be leaders in the transition to a sustainable economy we will not only preserve Alaska's unique character and value, but create the opportunities which will be the foundation of our future.

In an industrial world dominated by harmful and abusive (unsustainable) practices, where people are subordinate to corporations, where economic development means missile defense contracts and privatized prisons, we need some signs of human hopefulness.

- ¥ We need wind towers - not missile silos.
- ¥ We need meaningful employment - not just jobs
- ¥ We need publicly funded elections, not corporate politics.
- ¥ We need to return the will of the government to the citizenry, where leaders like Jefferson knew it belonged!

Every person deserves the opportunity for a meaningful and fulfilling life. Strategies which address people's needs in this way would go a long way toward stemming the rising tide of violence, substance abuse and apathy which tear at the fabric of our communities.

Our labor unions, women's suffrage, the end of slavery and other hard won social victories should serve as historical reminders that to envision and work for a better future is never futile.

DARE TO DREAM GREEN

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